

IN THE CLAIMS

Clean Version

Please replace claim 1 with the following replacement claim:

C) 1. (Amended) A method of automatically establishing a conference comprising the steps of:

AS
receiving conference logistics;
receiving participant profile data;
allocating a conference bridge port in accordance with the conference logistics;
dialing a telephone number in accordance with the conference logistics and the profile data;
playing an option to accept or refuse a connection to the conference; and
connecting a communications switch port to the allocated conference bridge port.

Please add new claims 15-31 as follows:

C1 15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein a participant responds with a DTMF tone to accept or refuse a connection to the conference.

16. (New) A method of automatically establishing a conference comprising the steps of:

AS
receiving conference logistics;
receiving participant profile data;
creating a conference record in accordance with the conference logistics;
maintaining conference containers indicative of how the conference record will be processed;
allocating a conference bridge port in accordance with the conference logistics;

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dialing a telephone number in accordance with the conference logistics and the profile data;

playing an option to accept or refuse a connection to the conference; and
connecting a communications switch port to the allocated conference bridge port.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the conference containers indicate whether the conference record should be allocated the conference bridge port and connected immediately, whether the conference record should be allocated the conference bridge port only, or whether the conference record should be connected only.

18. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the conference logistics comprise a start date, a connect time and a conference participant address.

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19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the participant profile data comprises a current address.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein allocating a bridge port is performed in accordance with the current address.

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21. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising updating the conference participant address with the current address.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the communications switch port is associated with the current address.

23. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the participant profile data comprises at least two of a current address, a home address, an office address, and a wireless address.

24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the communications switch comprises a telephone switch.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the conference participant address and the current address each comprise a telephone number.

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26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the step of connecting a communications switch port to the allocated conference bridge port takes place in accordance with the start date and connect time reflected in the conference logistics.

27. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the conference participant address comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

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28. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving conference logistics comprises receiving subscriber input to a DTMF menu.

29. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving conference logistics comprises receiving a formatted file comprising labeled conference provision information.

30. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein receiving conference logistics comprises receiving subscriber input to a form displayed on a client device.

31. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein a participant responds with a DTMF tone to accept or refuse a connection to the conference.